

such research technology, which scientists believe can lead to treatments or cures for currently deadly diseases, is shortsighted in the extreme.

Even more disturbing, H.R. 2505 goes further to ban the importation of any therapies created from cloning research technology. This means that any product or therapy developed anywhere in the world using this technology, could not be used by American patients. Consider for a moment a cure for Parkinson's, diabetes or ALS developed in the United Kingdom using cloning research technology—Americans would be banned, under penalty of prison and a \$1 million fine, from using that therapy. That is wrong.

Today, I supported an alternative that would have banned reproductive cloning while specifically protecting therapeutic research cloning by maintaining the status quo—private, strictly regulated research. This alternative, offered by Representative GREENWOOD, would have allowed scientists to pursue promising research that could show how to create stem cells from a person's own DNA, avoiding problems with immune system rejection. The alternative would have allowed scientists to study how stem cells become specialized, and thus provide insight into the mechanisms responsible for abnormal cells that result in some cancers and birth defects. It would have allowed research into how cells age and are regulated, potentially leading a treatment or a cure of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other degenerative diseases of the brain or spinal cord. Unfortunately, this alternative failed.

The opportunities at the doorstep of medical research are unparalleled in our history. H.R. 2505, although well intentioned, simply goes too far.

Mr. Speaker, it is possible to ban human cloning without stopping lifesaving research and that is what this House should do.

THE REVEREND FATHER ROBERT E. NILON, S.J.—A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to honor the achievements of Reverend Robert E. Nilon, S.J. of Miami as a dedicated Jesuit for sixty years. He has faithfully served parishioners in Alabama, Florida and Louisiana as a Parish Priest. Father Nilon was ordained to the priesthood to follow in the steps of St. Ignatius of Loyola on June 16, 1954.

Reverend Nilon has accepted various Florida assignments. Several locations include GESU Church in Downtown Miami, St. Ann's Church in West Palm Beach, St. Mary's Church in Key West, and is currently serving the Sacred Heart Church in Tampa, Florida as Parish Priest and Hospital Chaplain.

The Jesuits are not in pursuit of personal fame when accepting assignments as needed in the home or mission field. However, occasionally there are opportunities to do great things. One of Reverend Nilon's most memorable occasions took place in Rome in 1999 when he celebrated Mass in the company of His Holiness, John Paul II, who was celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the Jesuits.

His work is an inspiration to others in our community and will set a precedent for societal advancement. As a parish priest and pastor, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to others that proves to be an affirmable resource for the community.

Father Nilon will be honored on August 12, 2001 at the GESU Church where a Mass of Thanksgiving will be presided by Archbishop John C. Favalora. We congratulate Father Nilon for his outstanding contribution to our community and wish him all the best in health and continued prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS CHEATHAM, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas Cheatham, Jr., a native of Benton, MS. After a long and distinguished career of public service, Mr. Cheatham announced his retirement on June 30, 2001.

Mr. Cheatham was a dedicated employee of the State of Mississippi for 27 years with tenures at both the Department of Public Safety, Motor Vehicles Division and as a tax collector with the Mississippi State Tax Commission. Prior to this, Mr. Cheatham served in the military for 28 years with the Mississippi National Guard, where the qualities of dedication and punctuality were instilled into him. These traits followed him throughout his career, evidence in the fact that he was always on time for work.

Although Mr. Cheatham enjoyed his time with the State his real passion was coaching little league baseball. He spent 37 years coaching the Grove Park Royals, an eight to twelve age team, in Jackson, MS. As leader of the team, Mr. Cheatham enjoyed many successful seasons, this past year going 19 and 1. He was instrumental in the development of many young individuals on and off the field. He has also been fortunate enough to see several of his players eventually go on to play Major League Baseball.

Mr. Cheatham will be missed by a lot of people at work, but if anyone is more deserving of retirement it is him. He should be commended because he is truly a modern day "role model," displaying the characteristics of integrity and commitment for all to admire.

PROGRESS ON CURING PARKINSON'S DISEASE

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, I rise today to recognize the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act.

I was so very honored to be an original cosponsor to this legislation, named for Arizona Representative Mo Udall.

This landmark legislation expands basic and clinical research in Parkinson's Disease and establishes Morris K. Udall Centers, for awards for Excellence in Parkinson's Disease Research.

Today I express my full support for a continuation of Parkinson's Disease research.

Approximately, 1,000,000 Americans are afflicted with Parkinson's, with 60,000 more diagnosed each year—one every nine minutes.

Approximately 40% of those afflicted are under the age of 60, effectively removing them from the work force.

Parkinson's is the biological opposite of Alzheimer's disease: while Alzheimer's destroys the mind, leaving the body intact and functioning, Parkinson's destroys the body's ability to function, taking away the physical abilities necessary to daily life while leaving the mind prisoner inside the body.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope as science moves forward, especially in the area of stem cell research, which holds hope for the millions with Parkinson's that a cure will be found soon, and that the legacy of Mo Udall will live forever.

JOHN RANDOLPH, JR., HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the selection of John M. Randolph, Jr., C.P.A., as 2001 Community Leader of the Year by the Northeast Branch of the Arthritis Foundation. Mr. Randolph will be honored with a dinner on Sept. 13.

A well-respected business leader, John Randolph has also devoted countless hours to improving the community of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1959 to attend college and made the Wyoming Valley his home. A frequent speaker for professional and community service groups, John has often shared his financial expertise with the community. The list of his personal and professional affiliations and memberships is long and impressive.

King's College, from which he graduated with a bachelor of science in accounting in 1963, has benefited greatly from his service. He has served on the college's board of directors since 1992, served as vice-chairman of the board since 1996 and chaired the Jubilee Capital Campaign that raised approximately \$21 million over four years. King's awarded him the Kilburn Medal in 1999 for extraordinary service to the college.

He has also been honored with the Annual Trustee Award by College Misericordia, where he served as chairman and vice chairman of the finance committee. He has also served on the board of directors at Keystone College and on the President's Council at Wilkes University.

Mr. Randolph also was admitted to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Business Hall of Fame by Junior Achievement of Northeastern Pennsylvania and was awarded the prestigious Annual Community Service Award by B'nai B'rith.

Additionally, he serves on the boards of directors of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber

of Business and Industry, where he chaired the Project 2000 Task Force, and the Luzerne Foundation, of which he is also treasurer. He has also served as an elected member of the Council of Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants and as a member of the Group B Advisory Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Mr. Speaker, as indicated by his peers' selection of him for leadership roles, his professional achievements are impressive. He co-founded Parente, Randolph & Co., now known as Parente, Randolph P.C. and was instrumental in the planned growth of the firm to 10 practice offices with revenues in excess of \$25 million. When he retired from the firm in 1995, it was ranked as the 20th largest firm in the United States.

From 1995 to 1996, he served as senior executive vice president and treasurer of the Wyoming Valley Health Care System. Since that time, he has served as chairman of the board of directors and chief administrative officer of MotorWorld Automotive Group, Inc., as well as a special consultant to a variety of regional businesses.

John Randolph also served the nation as a member of the military for six months in 1964. He and his wife, Sharon, were married the following year. They have two grown sons, John III and Scott.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the achievements and good deeds of John M. Randolph, Jr., and I wish him all the best.

HONORING NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN PARK SYSTEM FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the park system of Nashville, Tennessee, on its 100th Anniversary of existence.

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, under the direction of Mr. James H. Fyke, currently oversees parks, historic sites, community centers, greenways, art galleries, golf courses, swimming pools, senior centers, and numerous other facilities which add to the quality of life for the 5th Congressional District of Tennessee.

Mr. Fyke and his staff are ardent supporters of the community by offering professionalism and vision as the parks system makes the transition into the 21st Century. The continued support of the Nashville Metropolitan Government over the years has been a crucial factor in the upkeep and maintenance of these properties, which benefit so many Nashvillians.

The Tennessee General Assembly approved legislation to enact and charter the Nashville Park System on April 13, 1901. That same year Mayor James Head appointed five individuals to the very first City Park Commission. On their first meeting, April 16, they began work with one mule, a handful of employees, one park, and no financial support whatsoever.

Nashville's first official park was Watkins Park, followed by Centennial Park in 1902. By 1903, the City Park Commission had an an-

nual operating budget of \$25,000, and employed Robert Creighton as the first Superintendent of Parks.

It wasn't until 1912 that additional parks were added to the system. These included Hadley and Shelby Parks. The first community center was added to Centennial Park just four years later, while the first public golf course opened in Shelby Park in 1924.

One of the crown jewels in the Nashville Park System is the Warner Parks, which the city acquired in 1926. To date the Warner Parks, located at Old Hickory Boulevard near Bellevue, offer 2,681 acres of natural beauty for the public to explore and enjoy, along with a Nature Center, picnic area, two golf courses, hiking and driving trails, and much more.

Another significant landmark belonging to the Nashville Park System is the Parthenon, the only full-scale replica of the original in existence. It was originally created as a temporary structure for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, reflecting the city's nickname as "The Athens of the South". It was rebuilt during the 1920s and officially re-opened its doors to visitors from around the world during the 1930s. The structure is nearing the conclusion of a \$13 million renovation and today houses many of the city's official art collections, while hosting visiting artwork from around the world. It is also the home to Athena, a 42-foot statue said to be the tallest indoor sculpture in the Western World.

The 1940s saw construction of the first gymnasium in Elizabeth Park Community Center and the first running of the Iroquois Steeplechase in Percy Warner Park. As the Park System celebrated its 50th Anniversary in the 1950s, the Cumberland Golf Course opened its doors as the first black golf course. However, by the end of the fifties segregation of Nashville's golf courses ceased for good.

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation as we know it today, first met on June 5, 1963. By 1976 the parks system had earned for itself an outstanding reputation and as such was selected as the most outstanding local agency in the United States. The seventies saw much activity as Greer Stadium, home of Nashville Sounds baseball, Fort Negley Park, Ice Centennial ice rink, Wave Country, and Hamilton Creek Sailboard Marina all opened to the public under the direction of newly appointed parks director Jim Fyke.

The now popular Riverfront Park was added in 1983, which has become the site of the city's annual Independence Day Celebration and numerous concerts and festivities. During the 1990s the following additions were made to the Nashville Parks System—the Centennial Sportsplex opened, the Metro Greenway Commission was created, Ted Rhodes Golf Course re-opened, Grassmere Wildlife Park was acquired, Metro Parks received the largest land donation in its history of 1500 acres, Shelby Bottoms opened, the Predators Ice Practice Facility opened, and many other improvements were implemented.

Most recently the parks system dedicated the new McCabe Golf Clubhouse and the VinnyLinks First Tee Golf Course and Learning Center in Shelby Park in 2000. Also, the countywide parks/greenways master plan will offer numerous improvements well into the 21st Century.

Today Metro Parks celebrates 100 years of existence with 93 parks, 9,350 total acres, 450 year round employees and 350 seasonal em-

ployees, as well as, 173 tennis courts, 85 ballfields, 14 swimming pools, 25 community centers, and 7 golf courses. The system also offers a sailboat marina, a wave action pool, 2 indoor ice rinks, 2 indoor tennis centers, a zoo, a nature center, a children's museum, a countywide greenway/trail system and a professional baseball stadium.

Metro Parks is to be commended for its legacy of excellence and service to the Nashville/Davidson County community for the past 100 years. May it continue to grow, prosper, and impact our region in the 21st Century. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE FLOYD SPENCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1928–2001

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and public service of a great advocate for our nation's defense, a true gentleman in the finest Southern tradition, and my good friend, Floyd Spence.

For those of us who knew him only later in life, it may come as a surprise that this gentle soul spent his early life as a terror on the gridiron at Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina. It's less of a surprise that he had a distinguished 36-year career in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve, because his knowledge of our nation's military was rivaled only by his deep affection for it.

Mr. Spence was a leader with the courage of his convictions. He became a Republican in 1962, when Republicans in the South were still a rare commodity. That party switch cost him his seat in the South Carolina House of Representatives, but the people of South Carolina came to respect his courage and shortly thereafter sent him to Congress in 1970. By the time I first came to Capitol Hill in 1994, Southern Republicans had become relatively commonplace. That happened because people like Floyd Spence followed their conscience and accepted the consequences willingly.

When I met Floyd, he was then the newly installed Chairman of what was then called the House National Security Committee. He handled his considerable responsibility with grace and dignity, displaying fairness to all members, regardless of party, and showing considerable patience with us freshmen who showed up full of enthusiasm but short on experience.

Chairman Spence knew that freedom isn't free and deeply believed that lasting peace could best be achieved through unquestioned strength. He pushed for better funding for training, modernization, readiness and quality of life initiatives. His leadership was instrumental in finally stemming the tide of declining defense budgets and placing our military on the road to recovery. The soldier enjoying his new pay raise, the military families moving into improved post housing, the pilot stepping into a much-needed new fighter jet—each of these people, and many others, can thank Floyd Spence for fighting for them. We would be well-advised to continue along the path to recovery that this remarkable man worked so hard to put us on.